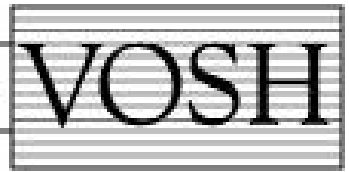


Virginia Occupational Safety and Health



**VOSH PROGRAM DIRECTIVE: 12-335**

**ISSUED: March 15, 2010**

**SUBJECT: Revising Standards Referenced in 16 VAC 25-90-1910.102, Acetylene Standard for General Industry, §1910.102**

**A. Purpose.**

This directive transmits to field personnel federal OSHA's revisions to standards referenced in the Acetylene Standard for General Industry, §1910.102.

*This Program Directive is an internal guideline, not a statutory or regulatory rule, and is intended to provide instructions to VOSH personnel regarding internal operation of the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program and is solely for the benefit of the program. This document is not subject to the Virginia Register Act or the Administrative Process Act; it does not have general application and is not being enforced as having the force of law.*

**B. Scope.**

This directive applies to all VOSH personnel.

**C. Reference.**

74 FR 40441 (August 11, 2009).

**D. Cancellation.**

Not Applicable.

**E. Effective Date.**

March 15, 2010.

**F. Action.**

Directors and Managers shall ensure that field personnel understand and comply with the standard included in this directive.

**G. Expiration Date.**

Not Applicable.

**H. Background.**

Federal OSHA initially adopted the Acetylene Standard in 1974, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the OSH Act of 1970 (OSH Act; 29 U.S.C. 651, 655). This section allowed OSHA, during the first two years after passage of the OSH Act, to adopt existing federal and national consensus standards in OSHA safety and health standards, including the current Acetylene Standard.

This action is part of a rulemaking project by federal OSHA to update its standards that reference or include language from outdated standards published by standards developing organizations (“SDO Standards”). The SDO standards referenced in OSHA’s Acetylene Standard (29 CFR 1910.102) are among those SDO standards that OSHA identified for revision.

In this direct final rule, federal OSHA used the SDO rulemaking project because it expects the rules to: be noncontroversial; provide protection to employees that is at least equivalent to the protection afforded to them by the outdated SDO standard; and imposes no significant new compliance costs on employers. OSHA uses the direct final rule adoption procedure to update or, when appropriate, revoke references to outdated national consensus standards in OSHA rules.

Although Federal OSHA received eight comments on the direct final rule within 30 days prior to the November 9, 2009 publication, it determined that these comments were not significant adverse comments, and OSHA confirmed its direct final rule which became effective on November 9, 2009 (74 FR 57883).

**I. Summary.**

Federal OSHA revised its Acetylene Standard for general industry by updating references to national consensus standards published by standards developing organizations (“SDO standards”). This rulemaking is a continuation of federal OSHA’s ongoing effort to update references to SDO standards used throughout its rules.

The revised standard requires that employers ensure that in-plant transfer, handling, storage and use of acetylene cylinders comply with Compressed Gas Association Pamphlet G-1-2003, Acetylene. Piping systems, as well as facilities and equipment, used to generate acetylene or to fill acetylene cylinders are now required to comply with National Fire Protection Standard NFPA 51A, *Standard for Acetylene Charging Plants*.

Revisions were also made in §1910.6, Incorporation by Reference, which references the Acetylene standard.

Edward A. Hegamyer  
Acting Commissioner

Attachment: 74 FR 40441 (August 11, 2009) or refer to:

[http://www.osha.gov/FedReg\\_osha\\_pdf/FED20090811.pdf](http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_osha_pdf/FED20090811.pdf)

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OSHA Region III and Norfolk Area Offices

**Revising Standards Referenced in 16 VAC 25-90-1910.102, Acetylene Standard, §1910.102;  
Direct Final Rule**

As Adopted by the  
Safety and Health Codes Board

Date: January 14, 2010



VIRGINIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Effective Date: April 15, 2010

16 VAC 25-90-1910.6, Incorporation by Reference  
16 VAC 25-90-1910.102, Acetylene

When the regulations, as set forth in the Direct Final Rule on Revising Standards Referenced in 16 VAC 25-90-1910.102, Acetylene Standard, §1910.102, and in 16 VAC 25-90-1910.6, Incorporation by reference, §1910.6, are applied to the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry and/or to Virginia employers, the following federal terms shall be considered to read as below:

Federal Terms

VOSH Equivalent

29 CFR

VOSH Standard

Assistant Secretary

Commissioner of Labor and Industry

Agency

Department

November 9, 2009

April 15, 2010